6/6/88 S8895-1

WYOMING LABOR FORCE TRENDS

VOL. 25 NO. 5 MAY 1988

TREND SETTERS

WYOMING	Feb '88	Mar '88
Labor Force	228,395	227,051
Employment	208,633	209,092
Unemployment	19,762	17,959
Rate (Raw)	8.7	7.9
Rate (S.A.)	7.0	6.7
Mining Hourly Wage	$14.75	$14.92
Avg. Weekly Hours, Mining	42.9	41.9
USA		
Rate (S.A.)	5.7	5.6
Mining Hourly Wage	$12.62	$12.58
Avg. Weekly Hours, Mining	41.5	41.1
Consumer Price Index		
All Urban (1982-1984 = 100)		
U.S. City Avg.	116.0	116.5
Year Change (U.S.)	+3.9	+3.9

S.A.-Seasonally Adjusted

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Wyoming Per Capita Income
- Wyoming's Population to Decline Through 2010
- States Ranked by Percent Change in Population

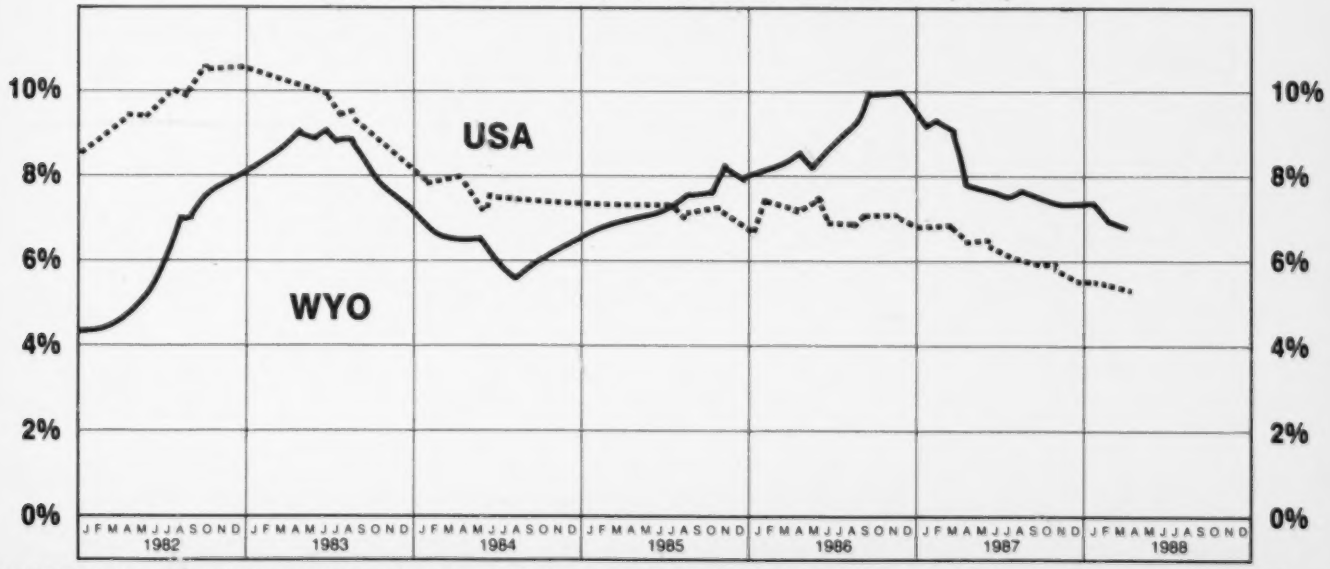
U.S. UNEMPLOYMENT CONTINUES TO DECLINE

Nonagricultural employment throughout the nation continued to rise during March, while at the same time, civilian unemployment continued to decline. The national civilian unemployment rate in March dropped another one-tenth of a percent from February, to 5.6 percent, the lowest it has been since May, 1979.

Civilian employment continued to rise from February, by over 400,000 in March. From September to February, national civilian employment had been gaining on average by about 300,000 per month. The civilian labor force, in March at 120 million, was 1.6 million greater than in March, 1987.

For adult women, the unemployment rate was down four-tenths of a percent to 4.8 percent in March, while the jobless rate for men stood at 4.9 percent. The unemployment rate for whites was 4.7 percent in March, for blacks, 12.8 percent, and Hispanics at 8.2 percent showed little change, while the rate for teenagers rose to 16.5 percent.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, WYOMING AND THE U.S. (S.A.)



WYOMING EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION, Research & Analysis Section

Prepared in conjunction with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

STATE'S JOBLESS RATE DOWN AGAIN IN MARCH

Wyoming unemployment posted its second decline of the year in March, dropping from 8.7 percent in February to 7.9 percent. The unemployment rate in March, 1987 was 12.1 percent.

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 6.7 percent in March, compared to 7.0 percent in February and 10.3 percent in March, 1987.

Wyoming's unemployment rate tied with New Mexico for the eighth highest rate in the nation in February, which is the latest monthly data available for all states. Montana and Idaho again held the highest unemployment rates in the Rocky Mountain area, with 9.1 percent each. Colorado unemployment rate stood at 8.1 percent, followed by Utah, with 6.3 percent, Nebraska, with 4.9 percent and South Dakota, with 4.2 percent.

As usual, Natrona County continued to have the largest number of people looking for work, about 2,500 unemployed, with an unemployment rate of 8.3 percent. This is still a considerable improvement from the 13.8 percent posted last year. Laramie County was close behind with more than 2,200 out of work.

Teton County once again had the lowest unemployment rate in the state, 3.9 percent, followed by Albany County, with 4.5 percent. The Jackson, Wyoming area continued with the highest labor force growth rate in the state—7.9 percent year-to-year.

WYOMING'S LABOR FORCE CONTINUES ANNUAL DECLINE

The total civilian labor force in March was just slightly more than 227,000 in Wyoming, indicating yet another year-to-year decline, this time by nearly 12,000 or 5.0 percent. The number of employed workers in the state was about 209,100 which was a slight improvement over February, but was down from the year ago level by less than one percent.

Eighteen of the 23 counties in the state reflected the continuing trend of Wyoming's declining labor force. Around the state only manufacturing, mining, services and government showed some annual employment improvement. All other major industries were at or below the previous year levels. Additional details are contained in Table 2.

WYOMING PER CAPITA INCOME

Per capita income in the Cowboy state declined for the second straight year reflecting the state's poor economic health. The income per resident fell $22 from $12,781 in 1986 to $12,759 in 1987. Wyoming's rank among states also fell from 34th in 1986 to 36th in 1987. Alaska was the only other state to experience a drop in income in 1987.

During the late 70's and early 80's, Wyoming ranked near the top of per capita income nationally — sixth for years 1979, 1980 and 1981. Wyoming enjoyed incomes that were above the national average until 1983, when for the first time in years the state's per capita income fell below the national average. Since 1983, the U.S. per capita income has increased almost 27 percent from $12,098 in 1983 to $15,340 in 1987. For the same period, Wyoming's income has grown a scant eight percent.

The U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic analysis calculates per capita incomes for the U.S. and the states annually. Per capita personal income is the annual total personal income of residents divided by resident population as of July 1. The table below summarizes the recent history of Wyoming's per capita income.

WYOMING AND U.S. PER CAPITA INCOME 1975-1987

	WYOMING				U.S.	
YEAR	PERCENT OF NAT'L AVG.	RANK AMONG STATES	PERCENT CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS YR.	PER CAPITA PERS. INC.	PER CAPITA PERS. INC.	PERCENT CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS YR.
1975	106	13	8.1	$ 6,414	$ 6,073	7.5
1976	104	15	8.1	6,935	6,651	9.5
1977	107	11	12.3	7,790	7,294	9.7
1978	112	7	16.6	9,083	8,136	11.5
1979	113	6	12.4	10,207	9,033	11.0
1980	114	6	11.1	11,339	9,919	9.8
1981	113	6	8.8	12,342	10,949	10.4
1982	107	11	- 0.6	12,263	11,481	4.9
1983	98	23	- 3.4	11,841	12,098	5.4
1984	93	27	3.5	12,252	13,114	8.4
1985	93	27	5.6	12,940	13,907	6.0
1986	87	34	- 1.2	12,781	14,641	5.3
1987	83	36	- 0.1	12,759	15,340	4.8

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

WYOMING'S POPULATION TO DECLINE THROUGH 2010

Wyoming's population will continue to shrink through the year 2010 according to projections released by the Commerce Department's Census Bureau. The Census estimates that the state's population will decline 19,000 from 506,000 in 1987 to 487,000 by 2010.

Wyoming will continue into the next century as the least populous state. Vermont which this year becomes second smallest, keeps that rank past 2000. Alaska now third smallest, will move to fourth smallest, while North Dakota will become third smallest.

TOTAL POPULATION
(x 1,000)

	1987	1988	1989	1990	1995	2000	2010	RANK 1990 1995 2000	PERCENT CHANGE 1980-1990	PERCENT CHANGE 1990-2010
WYOMING	506	505	503	502	495	489	487	50th	6.9	-2.8

STATES RANKED BY PERCENT CHANGE IN POPULATION 1987-2010

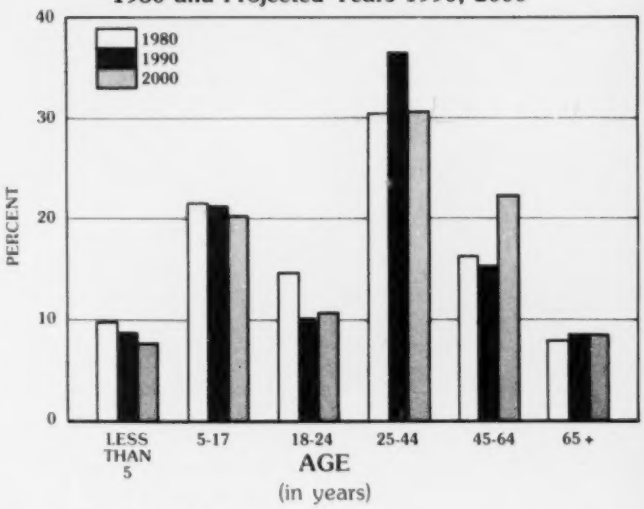
(in thousands)

		ESTIMATED 1987 POPULATION	ESTIMATED 2010 POPULATION	PERCENT CHANGE
1.	Arizona	3,432	5,319	55.0
2.	Nevada	993	1,484	49.4
3.	New Mexico	1,518	2,248	48.1
4.	Florida	11,962	17,530	46.5
5.	Georgia	6,244	9,045	44.9
6.	Hawaii	1,081	1,559	44.2
7.	North Carolina	6,422	9,045	40.8
8.	Alaska	544	765	40.6
9.	New Hampshire	1,058	1,455	37.5
10.	California	27,531	37,347	35.7
11.	Texas	16,937	22,281	31.6
12.	Utah	1,694	2,171	28.2
13.	Virginia	5,883	7,410	26.0
14.	Maryland	4,532	5,688	25.5
15.	Colorado	3,308	4,098	23.9
16.	Delaware	641	790	23.2
17.	South Carolina	3,420	4,205	23.0
18.	Washington	4,514	5,282	17.0
19.	New Jersey	7,687	8,980	16.8
20.	Mississippi	2,643	3,028	14.6
21.	Tennessee	4,848	5,500	13.4
22.	Alabama	4,086	4,609	12.8
23.	Vermont	547	608	11.2
24.	Rhode Island	982	1,085	10.5
25.	Maine	1,184	1,308	10.5
26.	Oregon	2,716	2,991	10.1
27.	Connecticut	3,212	3,532	10.0
28.	Arkansas	2,386	2,624	10.0
29.	Missouri	5,100	5,521	8.3
30.	Dist. of Columbia	621	672	8.2
31.	Minnesota	4,243	4,578	7.9
32.	Idaho	1,006	1,079	7.3
33.	Massachusetts	5,838	6,255	7.1
34.	Oklahoma	3,295	3,511	6.6
35.	Kansas	2,469	2,564	3.8
36.	New York	17,759	18,139	2.1
37.	South Dakota	707	722	2.1
38.	Louisiana	4,504	4,545	0.9
39.	Kentucky	3,733	3,710	- 0.6
40.	Illinois	11,569	11,495	- 0.6
41.	Michigan	9,191	9,097	- 1.0
42.	Wisconsin	4,791	4,713	- 1.6
43.	Indiana	5,518	5,409	- 2.0
44.	Montana	814	794	- 2.5
45.	Ohio	10,767	10,397	- 3.4
46.	Wyoming	506	487	- 3.8
47.	Nebraska	1,595	1,529	- 4.1
48.	Pennsylvania	11,874	11,134	- 6.2
49.	North Dakota	674	611	- 9.3
50.	West Virginia	1,902	1,617	-15.0
51.	Iowa	2,826	2,382	-15.7

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, April, 1988.

WYOMING POPULATION BY AGE GROUPS

1980 and Projected Years 1990, 2000



Source: Bureau of Census.

Prepared by: W.E.S.C., Research and Analysis, April, 1988.

BLS LOOKS AT DISPLACED WORKERS AND MASS LAYOFFS

The displaced worker survey began in 1984 as a supplement to the January CPS. The Bureau of Labor Statistics recently issued its second bulletin on displaced workers - those who have lost jobs at which they had worked for a number of years. The data are for January 1986.

Highlights of the report:

- Over 5.1 million workers who had held their jobs for at least three years lost jobs because of plant closings or employment cutbacks over the January 1981 - January 1986 period.
- About two thirds of those workers had another job when surveyed in 1986. More than half earned at least as much in their new jobs as in those they had lost. But many had taken large wage cuts.
- Many changed occupations. Almost one out of every five machine operators, assemblers and inspectors who were reemployed in 1986 had switched to service related occupations.
- The displaced workers were heavily concentrated in the East North Central States - Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio and Wisconsin.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - (1982-1984 = 100)

ALL URBAN

	ALL ITEMS	FOOD & BEVERAGE	HOUSING	ENTER-TAINMENT	APPAREL & UPKEEP	TRANSP.	MEDICAL
March 1988	116.5	116.0	117.0	119.0	114.3	106.5	136.3
Annual % Change	3.9	3.1	3.7	4.5	4.2	3.1	6.4

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 1

WYOMING ECONOMIC INDICATORS

ITEM	MAR 1988[1]	FEB 1988[1]	MAR 1987[2]	Percent change From A Month Ago	Percent change From A Year Ago
WYOMING EMPLOYMENT DATA					
Total Civilian Labor Force	227,051	228,395	238,960	- 0.6	- 5.0
Unemployment	17,959	19,762	29,019	- 9.1	- 38.1
Employed Labor Force	209,092	208,633	209,941	0.2	- 0.4
a. Covered Employment (Under Wyo. UI Law)[3]	158,900	158,850	162,180	0.0	- 2.0
b. Agriculture[3]	10,343	9,495	9,364	8.9	10.5
Total Unemployment Rate (Wyo.) Seas. Adj.*	7.9% 6.7%*	8.7% 7.0%*	12.1% 10.3%*	XXX	XXX
Total Unemployment Rate (U.S.) Seas. Adj.*	5.9% 5.6%*	6.2% 5.7%*	6.9% 6.5%*	XXX	XXX
Insured Unemployment Rate (Wyo.)[4]	3.7%	3.9%	5.3%	XXX	XXX
HOURS & EARNINGS					
Mining (Production Workers):					
Average Weekly Earnings	$ 625.15	$ 632.78	$ 588.24	- 1.2	6.3
Average Weekly Hours	41.9	42.9	39.8	- 2.3	5.3
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 14.92	$ 14.75	$ 14.78	1.2	0.9
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE					
Claims Filed in Local Offices	30,864	33,674	50,100	- 8.3	- 38.4
a. Initial	3,030	3,293	3,720	- 8.0	- 18.5
Weeks Compensated	27,405	24,017	44,908	14.1	- 39.0
Total Amount Benefits Paid	$ 4,246,824	$ 3,760,705	$ 7,262,677	12.9	- 41.5
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$ 154.62	$ 156.21	$ 161.43	- 1.0	- 4.2
EMPLOYMENT SERVICE					
New Applications Received During Month	N.A.	N.A.	2,947	XXX	XXX
Non-Ag. Openings Received	N.A.	N.A.	1,791	XXX	XXX
Non-Ag. Placements	N.A.	N.A.	1,446	XXX	XXX
UNITED STATES DATA					
HOURS & EARNINGS					
Mining (Production Workers):					
Average Weekly Earnings	$ 517.04	$ 523.73	$ 522.92	- 1.3	- 1.1
Average Weekly Hours	41.1	41.5	41.8	- 1.0	- 1.7
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 12.58	$ 12.62	$ 12.51	0.3	0.6
PRICE INDEXES					
Consumer Price Index 1982-84 = 100	116.5	116.0	112.1	0.4	3.9
Producer Prices, All Commodities 1982-84 = 100	104.9	104.6	101.2	0.3	3.7
Food and Beverage 1982-84 = 100	116.0	115.8	112.5	0.2	3.1

[1] Preliminary. [2] Final. [3] Not Benchmarked to the Current Population Survey. [4] Rate does not include claimants receiving benefits under extended benefit provisions.

Source: Wyoming Employment Security Commission and Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 2

WYOMING
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE & UNEMPLOYMENT

(Prepared in Cooperation with U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

COUNTY	LABOR FORCE					UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	MAR 1988	FEB 1988	MAR 1987	%CHANGE FEB-MAR	%CHANGE MAR-MAR	MAR 1988	FEB 1988	MAR 1987	MAR 1988	FEB 1988	MAR 1987
Statewide	227,051	228,395	238,960	- 0.6	- 5.0	17,959	19,762	29,019	7.9	8.7	12.1
Statewide Seasonally adjusted									6.7	7.0	10.3
Albany	16,081	16,117	15,750	- 0.2	2.1	718	799	984	4.5	5.0	6.2
Big Horn	4,597	4,614	4,870	- 0.4	- 5.6	526	574	875	11.4	12.4	18.0
Campbell	14,695	14,749	16,115	- 0.4	- 8.8	1,202	1,343	2,146	8.2	9.1	13.3
Carbon	7,440	7,518	7,808	- 1.0	- 4.7	737	789	1,026	9.9	10.5	13.1
Converse	5,334	5,350	6,014	- 0.3	- 11.3	512	533	887	9.6	10.0	14.7
Crook	2,985	2,984	2,915	0.0	2.4	272	268	343	9.1	9.0	11.8
Fremont	15,734	15,822	16,652	- 0.6	- 5.5	1,525	1,664	2,298	9.7	10.5	13.8
Goshen	6,084	6,001	6,142	1.4	- 0.9	563	647	644	9.3	10.8	10.5
Hot Springs	3,051	3,001	2,984	1.7	2.2	180	189	244	5.9	6.3	8.2
Johnson	3,230	3,244	3,353	- 0.4	- 3.7	259	256	506	8.0	7.9	15.1
Laramie	35,658	35,871	35,990	- 0.6	- 0.9	2,209	2,404	3,082	6.2	6.7	8.6
Lincoln	5,896	5,902	6,766	- 0.1	- 12.9	656	718	1,179	11.1	12.2	17.4
Natrona	30,165	30,568	32,424	- 1.3	- 7.0	2,495	2,722	4,480	8.3	8.9	13.8
Niobrara	1,805	1,826	1,674	- 1.2	7.8	134	130	214	7.4	7.1	12.8
Park	11,962	12,098	12,288	- 1.1	- 2.7	849	1,044	1,368	7.1	8.6	11.1
Platte	4,385	4,345	4,437	0.9	- 1.2	384	415	579	8.8	9.6	13.0
Sheridan	11,794	11,805	12,519	- 0.1	- 5.8	849	973	1,288	7.2	8.2	10.3
Sublette	2,609	2,589	3,108	0.8	- 16.1	278	301	517	10.7	11.6	16.6
Sweetwater	17,958	18,009	20,455	- 0.3	- 12.2	1,702	1,909	2,967	9.5	10.6	14.5
Teton	8,816	9,044	8,172	- 2.5	7.9	340	414	528	3.9	4.6	6.5
Uinta	8,981	9,193	10,346	- 2.3	- 13.2	936	983	1,768	10.4	10.7	17.1
Washakie	4,626	4,574	4,759	1.1	- 2.8	401	436	656	8.7	9.5	13.8
Weston	3,167	3,172	3,417	- 0.2	- 7.3	235	251	438	7.4	7.9	12.8
United States									5.9	6.2	6.9
United States Seasonally adjusted									5.6	5.7	6.5

* The data contained in this table includes updated procedures mandated by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. In addition the 1985 data has been benchmarked to the Current Population Survey as conducted in Wyoming.

NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT IN WYOMING [1]

Table 3 *(Prepared in Cooperation with U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)*

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT (In thousands)			% Change in Total Emp.	
	MAR 1988[2]	FEB 1988[3]	MAR 1987	FEB 1987	MAR 1987
	Total	Total	Total	to MAR 1987	to MAR 1988
WYOMING NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT					
Total Non-Farm Wage & Salary Employment	173.2	173.3	174.5	- 0.6	- 0.7
Manufacturing	7.7	7.8	7.6	- 1.3	1.3
Durable Goods	3.5	3.6	3.4	- 2.8	2.9
Nondurable Goods	4.2	4.2	4.2	0.0	0.0
Petroleum & Coal Products	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.0	0.0
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	165.5	165.5	166.9	0.0	- 0.8
Mining	17.0	17.2	16.5	- 1.2	3.0
Contract Construction	7.2	7.1	8.8	1.4	- 18.2
Transportation & Public Utilities	12.6	12.6	12.8	0.0	- 1.6
Railroad Transportation	1.9	1.9	1.9	0.0	0.0
Transportation except Railroads	4.7	4.7	4.8	0.0	- 2.1
Comm., Elect., Gas & Sani. Serv.	6.0	6.0	6.1	0.0	- 1.6
Wholesale & Retail Trade	38.5	38.7	38.9	- 0.5	- 1.0
Wholesale Trade	6.6	6.6	6.8	0.0	- 2.9
Retail Trade	31.9	32.1	32.1	- 0.6	- 0.6
Food Stores	4.7	4.8	4.8	- 2.1	- 2.1
Automotive Dealers & Serv. Stat.	5.1	5.1	5.8	0.0	- 12.1
Eating & Drinking Places	12.0	11.9	11.7	0.8	2.6
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	7.2	7.2	7.5	0.0	- 4.0
Services	30.8	30.8	30.7	0.0	0.3
Personal Services	1.8	1.8	1.8	0.0	0.0
Medical & Other Health Services	7.6	7.7	7.8	- 1.3	- 2.6
Government	52.2	51.9	51.7	0.6	1.0
Federal Government	7.8	7.8	6.9	0.0	13.0
State & Local Government	44.9	44.6	44.8	0.7	0.2
State Government	13.3	13.2	13.2	0.8	0.8
Local Government	31.6	31.4	31.6	0.6	0.0

(See Footnotes at End of Table)

NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT IN WYOMING [1]

Table 3 (Cont'd) *(Publication of Cheyenne data is not sanctioned by the Bureau of Labor Statistics)*

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT (In thousands)			% Change in Total Emp.	
	MAR 1988[2]	FEB 1988[3]	MAR 1987	FEB 1988	MAR 1987
	Total	Total	Total	to MAR 1988	to MAR 1988
CASPER (Natrona County)					
TOTAL NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	25.8	25.8	26.3	0.0	- 1.9
Manufacturing	1.3	1.3	1.2	0.0	8.3
Nondurable Goods	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
Petroleum & Coal Products	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.0
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	24.5	24.5	25.1	0.0	- 2.4
Mining	2.5	2.5	2.8	0.0	- 10.7
Oil & Gas Extraction	2.3	2.3	2.1	0.0	9.5
Other Mining, Quarrying, etc.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Contract Construction	1.1	1.1	1.3	0.0	- 15.4
Transportation & Public Utilities	1.7	1.7	1.8	0.0	- 5.6
Wholesale & Retail Trade	7.7	7.7	7.5	0.0	2.7
Wholesale Trade	2.3	2.3	2.2	0.0	4.5
Retail Trade	5.4	5.4	5.3	0.0	1.9
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	1.4	1.4	1.5	0.0	- 6.7
Services	5.2	5.2	5.4	0.0	- 3.7
Government	4.9	4.9	5.3	0.0	- 7.5
Federal Government	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.0	- 14.3
State & Local Government	4.3	4.3	4.6	0.0	- 6.5
CHEYENNE (Laramie County)					
TOTAL NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	29.5	29.6	29.6	- 0.3	- 0.3
Manufacturing	1.1	1.1	1.0	0.0	0.0
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	28.4	28.5	28.5	- 0.4	- 0.4
Contract Construction	1.5	1.6	1.6	- 6.2	- 6.2
Transportation & Public Utilities	2.4	2.4	2.5	0.0	- 4.0
Wholesale & Retail Trade	7.0	7.0	6.7	0.0	4.5
Wholesale Trade	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
Retail Trade	6.3	6.3	6.0	0.0	5.0
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	1.9	1.9	1.9	0.0	0.0
Services & Miscellaneous	5.7	5.7	5.7	0.0	0.0
Government	9.9	9.9	10.1	0.0	- 2.0
Federal Government	2.7	2.7	2.7	0.0	0.0
State & Local Government	7.2	7.2	7.4	0.0	- 2.7

[1] Estimates include all full and part-time wage and salary workers in non-ag establishments who worked or received pay during the week which includes the 12th of the month. Proprietors, self-employeds, domestic servants and personnel of the armed forces are excluded. [2] Subject to revision. [3] Revised figures.

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WYOMING LABOR FORCE TRENDS

The *Wyoming Labor Force Trends* is published monthly by the Research and Analysis Section of the Wyoming Employment Security Commission.

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